

REMARKS

Claims 11-19 have been allowed and allowable claim 6 has been amended to place it in independent form for allowance. Allowable claims 27 and 28 have been amended to place them in independent form as new claims 29 and 30. Claims 6, 11-19, 29 and 30, therefore, are allowable.

Rejected claims 1-10 and 21-26 stand rejected as anticipated based on German (37520), or Baxter et al.; or rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as obvious over Baxter et al. in view of Holben et al; or obvious over Stroop in view of Baxter et al. (paragraphs 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the outstanding Office Action).

The independent rejected claims (1, 4, and 25) have been amended to include the feature disclosed at page 7, paragraph [0026] to include predominantly planar side surfaces 27. As set forth throughout this specification, many advantages result from forming the post valve to include predominantly planar side surfaces 27 by forming the post valve from circular metal bar stock.

The Baxter et al. '626 valve is circular, but is not formed to include predominantly planar sides. The German (37520) has predominantly planar sides of the multi-part (not unitary) valve body 15 and 2, but only the valve actuator 10 (Fig. 7) is circular, and nowhere does German disclose that the planar sides of the valve body 15,2 is formed from circular bar stock.

There is no suggestion or motivation in either Baxter et al. or Stroop to form planar surfaces of the valve body by forming planar surfaces from circular metal bar stock.

For the above reasons, it is submitted that rejected claims 1-10 and 21-26 are patentable over the prior art of record.

It is submitted that all remaining claims are of proper form and scope for allowance. Early and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 30552/38911 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,

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